

Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) Membership Balance Plan

Please read the Federal Advisory Committee Membership Balance Plan Guidance prior to completing this form

(1) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE NAME <i>State the legal name of the FAC</i>
The Office of Justice Programs Science Advisory Board (SAB)
(2) AUTHORITY <i>Identify the authority for establishing the FAC</i>
The Board is a discretionary advisory committee established under the authority of the Attorney General of the Department of Justice (Department). The Board is established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. App. 2
(3) MISSION/FUNCTION <i>Describe the mission/function of the FAC</i>
The Board will provide the office of the Assistant Attorney General (AAG) of the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) with valuable advice in the areas of social science and statistics for the purpose of enhancing the overall impact and performance of its programs and activities in the areas of criminal and juvenile justice. The Board will help develop long-range plans, advise on program development, and recommend guidance to assist OJP in adhering to the highest levels of scientific rigor as appropriate. The Board will provide an important base of contact with the criminal justice academic and practitioner communities.
(4) POINTS OF VIEW <i>Based on understanding the purpose of the FAC,</i> <i>(a) describe the process that will be used to ensure the committee is balanced, and identify the categories (e.g. individual expertise or represented interests) from which candidates will be considered;</i> <i>(b) consider indentifying an anticipated relative distribution of candidates across the categories; and</i> <i>(c) explain how a determination was made to appoint any individuals as Special Government Employees or Representative members</i>
<p>A) The composition of the OJP SAB is determined through nominations from the leadership in the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Final decisions on appointments are made by the Attorney General. FAC members are drawn from the knowledge base of OJP leadership, with emphasis given to individuals with a demonstrated commitment to scientific integrity in criminal and juvenile justice research and evaluation. SAB members are selected from the following areas of expertise: criminology, criminal justice, juvenile justice, tribal justice, statistics, economics, sociology, political science, and other relevant behavioral sciences.</p> <p>B) The selection of SAB members achieves a balance of backgrounds, experiences, viewpoints, and expertise in both scientific areas as well as criminal and juvenile justice professionals. This distribution ensures that multiple views are represented in each of the areas of expertise.</p> <p>C) The SAB designates the FAC members as special government employees with the purpose of each member providing advice and guidance that represents the views of practioners, experts, and advocates in each of the respective areas of expertise from which they are chosen.</p>
(5) OTHER BALANCE FACTORS <i>List any other factors your agency identifies as important in achieving a balanced FAC</i>

Diversity in both race and gender are also considered.

(6) CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

Summarize the process intended to be used to identify candidates for the FAC, key resources expected to be tapped to identify candidates and the key persons (by position, not name) who will evaluate FAC balance. The summary should:

- (a) describe the process*
- (b) identify the agency key staff involved (by position, not name)*
- (c) briefly describe how FAC vacancies, if any, will be handled by the agency; and*
- (d) state the membership term limit of FAC members, if applicable*

A) The Directors of science agencies in OJP--the National Institute of Justice, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (which has a research mandate)--nominate individuals to serve on the SAB based on the factors mentioned above. The nominations are reviewed by the OJP Assistant Attorney General and OJP leadership staff with final selections made considering racial and gender diversity, and the variety of expertise areas included above. When balance is achieved, a draft membership list is extensively vetted. Thereafter, outreach is made to potential members to confirm participation and availability. Final appointments are then made by the Attorney General.

B) Key staff are the OJP Assistant Attorney General, the Directors of the National Institute of Justice, and the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Counsel to the OJP AAG, and the Attorney General.

C) Vacancies are handled in the same manner as selection of initial SAB members.

D) Terms are limited to three two-year appointments for each FAC member.

(7) SUBCOMMITTEE BALANCE

Subcommittees subject to FACA should either state that the process for determining FAC member balance on subcommittees is the same as the process for the parent FAC, or describe how it is different*

**This is relevant to those agencies that require their subcommittees to follow all FACA requirements.*

The process for selection of subcommittee members is the same as for FAC members.

(8) OTHER

Provide any additional information that supports the balance of the FAC

(9) DATE PREPARED/UPDATED

Insert the actual date the Membership Balance Plan was initially prepared, along with the date(s) the Plan is updated

October 22, 2012